Burien Business and Economic Development Partnership (BEDP)

Friday, August 22, 2008 7:00 – 8:30 a.m.

Burien Interim City Hall, Shared Conference Room 15811 Ambaum Blvd. SW

Members Present: Harvey Aulgur, Mary Averett, Rick Cosgrave, Nancy Damon, David Elliott, Bob Ewing, Geri Fain, Michael Goldsmith, Jim Hughes, Mark Minium, Doug Moreland, Jane Voget

Excused Absentees: Kevin Fitz, Karen Lautermilch

Staff: Dick Loman, Economic Development Manager, Janet Stallman, Department Assistant, Scott Greenberg, Community Development Director

Guests: Marco Milanese; Port of Seattle; Dana Spindler, Environmental Coalition of South Seattle (ECOSS)

Call to Order: Meeting opened at 7:00 a.m. by Michael Goldsmith, Chair

Minutes from July 25, 2008 were approved as written.

Chair's Report – Michael Goldsmith

Michael Goldsmith introduced Dana Spindler of ECOSS to present information on her organization.

Dana Spindler explained that ECOSS is a non-profit organization that provides free education and assistance to help small businesses realize financial savings through resource conservation. ECOSS is funded by the Department of Ecology and the local utilities. They also get some private grants. They promote several water saving, waste reduction and energy savings programs. They offer free low-flow toilets, free efficient spray heads for faucets and free aerators which also reduce wasted water.

Q. Do you have someone who can replace the toilets? **A.** No, the work must be done by the business owner or someone that they hire to do so.

Dave Elliott commented that it would be great to have ECOSS work with businesses going into NERA to make the whole development "green."

Jim Hughes mentioned he had participated with City Light in this program, and that he has better lights and will save a substantial amount of money each month. City light does have subcontractors that will come and do the work.

It was suggested that Patty at Discover Burien could put this information in their newsletter. Dana responded that she is scheduled to present at Discover Burien next month.

Discover Burien Report - Doug Moreland

The Discover Burien Board had a retreat this week, and there will be some changes coming out of the retreat. Arts Aglow Event is September 6. There is a B-town Blog party at the Elliott Bay Brewery & Pub 6 pm to 10 pm this Monday. Vino Bello – Burien for Cancer – this Tuesday evening.

Economic Manager Report – Dick Loman

The hotel project is on hold at this time. We will be using the area as auxiliary parking for the Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) temporarily.

TOD – The Selection Committee has named Wasatch/Alliance as the preferred developer with whom to negotiate for the project. Steve Clark & Dick Loman are the City's representatives on this King County project. There will be a gap on what the developer needs for return on equity and what is available in the project. There will be a meeting in mid-September with the developer to begin fleshing out the question of what this dollar figure will be. We need to find out how much public money is going to be needed to get this project going.

Sales & renting at Town Square is moving slowly. The number of condos sold is in the mid 40's. Retail is also slow. Dick spoke with the brokers at Coldwell Banker in Seattle. The very first lease that they will sign is going to be with a medical service. They are also getting close with another 2,500 sq. ft. lease with a personal services salon. Construction of Library/City Hall and the nearby street grid is proceeding, and the landscaping of the park will soon be underway. It is hoped that these improvements will make a difference in sales/leasing. Ace Hardware at Wesbild is due to be completed within 60 days. Their move-in is going to help with renting the boutique retail on 4th Avenue.

The Certificate of Occupancy is expected around the first of February for that phase. The rest of the units will be ready for occupancy in February. The Library/City Hall is scheduled to be completed sometime at the end of May / 1st of June.

Dick briefly brought up that the City is reviewing its special event permit issuing process in response to some concerns that have been brought to the city's attention. Concerns range from requirements for beer gardens to allowing open consumption of alcohol on the streets out of vehicles, to security issues. There have also been concerns about the economic impact that businesses incur when streets are closed for events. A sub-committee was formed to discuss and make suggestions regarding changes to our current process. Mark Minium, Sgt. Henry McLauchlan, Nancy Damon, and Jane Voget, along with Dick Loman will be on the sub-committee. Nancy worked on a committee that came up with policy for Bellevue. She suggested we might want to take a look at what they have.

Economic Element of Comprehensive Plan

The Sub-committee working on updating the Economic Element of the Comprehensive Plan has met several times. They are working on recommendations to the Planning Commission for changes to the document that they'd like to see in the current review of the Plan. These recommendations need to be voted on by BEDP members at their September 12 meeting.

The BEDP will continue reviewing the Economic Element for other changes that they'd like to see adopted for the long-term. This will be part of the Partnership's work program for next year.

Thursday morning (August 28) will be the next subcommittee meeting.

Burien Aesthetic Master Plan

Michael Goldsmith is interested in following up on the idea of working together with the Arts Commission to do an Aesthetic Master Plan for Burien. Dick will find out who the best representative would be from the Arts Commission to come talk to us about the vision for an Aesthetic Master Plan. We can then have someone come give us a presentation, and we can figure out how best to work with them.

After the BEDP learns more about this from the Arts Commission, a decision will be made as to whether a sub-committee is needed to work in this area. If so, Rick Cosgrave, Jim Hughes and Geri Fain have agreed to serve on such a committee.

Round the Table

Bob Ewing mentioned it would be interesting to have a report from the Planning Commission as to where they are in their process of defining a recommended "sustainability" focus for Burien. Mary Averett reports this is her last meeting; she wishes everybody well Many wishes of Goodbye and thank-you from the group to Mary.

Next Meeting September 12, 2008, 7:00 a.m. – INTERIM CITY HALL